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SA PC-6757
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Project Cover Officer 3 July 1956

SUBJECT : Photographs of the U-2 Aircraft

1. In the course of a telephone conversation on 2 July with Kelly Johnson, the following points were covered concerning the photographs of the U-2 aircraft that are ready if needed for press release. (a) Kelly agrees that these are about as unrevealing as any photographs that could be made and are well suited for this purpose. (b) During his absence for vacation, these photographs will be in the custody of [redacted] 25X1A5a1 (PIO) who will be instructed to hold them until he is advised by this Headquarters that they are to be released to the press.

2. I am leaving to the Cover Officer to make absolutely certain that in the event of a decision to release photographs, [redacted] in Lockheed 25X1A5a1 is properly advised in advance so that the release is coordinated between Lockheed and NACA.

25X1A6a
25X1X7

3. While in [redacted] I agreed to supply a set of these same photographs for distribution to a number of USAF, [redacted] units in the Theater for identification purposes. Pilots in these units have the opportunity to see the aircraft both on the ground and in the air. It would not appear to me, therefore, that security is any further compromised by providing recognition photographs. It was the view of Colonel Holbury and General Beebe that provision of these photographs would quiet speculation about the U-2 and reduce the chances of scrambles against it or attacks upon it by friendly aircraft.

RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Project Director

RMBidjm

25X1A9a

1-[redacted]
2-
3-
4-Dep. Pro. Dir.
5-RMB Chrono
6-Dir. of Admin.
7-Pro. Chrono

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